Varahi Project under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme

1503. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Karnataka has requested to include Varahi Project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Karnataka has submitted proposal for inclusion of Varahi Irrigation Project under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme. After examination of the proposal, the State Government has been requested to provide compliance to certain observations.

Rain Water Harvesting

1504. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the report "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water" prepared by the Cenral Ground Water Board;

(b) the steps taken by Government to encourage rain water harvesting; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide incentive to States like Tamil Nadu which are implementing rain water harvesting successfully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Metre volume of surplus monsoon run-off, through construction of 39.25 lakh artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures in the identified areas of 4.5 lakh Sq. Km. The report outlines broad framework about feasibility of these recharge structures in various parts of the country. The Master Plan is a conceptual document.